LED OFFICERS LIVELY CHASE

Negro Who Escaped Jail About to Jump Into River When Captured.

FISHBURNE

INDICTED

Magnificent Showing for Mr. Seward's Bible Class-Engineer Favors Diversion Scheme.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

PETTERSBURG, VA., Feb. 23.—The electoral board of Petersburg, recently appointed by Judge Mullen, to-day qualified before the court, their terms beginning to-morrow. Their first meeting will probably be held to-morrow, when organization will be effected.

Sidney Blackwell, a negro, committed to jail in default of a fine and bond, escaped from Jaller Bowles last evening about 7 o'clock. Blackwell was allowed by the Jaller to go to the hydrant near the jail for a pall of water, when he availed himself of the opportunity to escape. The custodian gave chase, but under cover of darkness the negro cluded his pursuer. This morning, however, Blackwell was recuptured near the union station by Officer Peyton Stewart. Before submitting to rearrest the negro led the officer a lively chase about the railroad yards, and when taken was at the dage of the river ready for a swim to safety.

the officer a lively chase about the railrad yards, and when taken was at the edge of the river ready for a swim to safety.

Sheriff Lee, of Greensville county, trrived in Petersburg to-day with Robert Reed, a negro, who is under sentence to five years' imprisonment in the penitentary for the theft of a cow. Reed will be kept in the Petersburg jail until called for by the penitentlary officers.

PETERSBURGS MORTALITY.

According to the report of Dr. Martin, health officer of the city of Petersburg. For the month ending Pebruary 26th, there were 5-1 denths in the city—36 colored and 18 white. Twenty-two of this number were above the age of fifty years; 12 were under five years. The rate of mertality for the whole population is 5.9.2—white, 18; colored, 33.23.

Miss Emily Virginia Townes, of Petersburg, is the guest of Miss Sophie White, of Franklin Street, Richmond.

Mr. L. E. Badger returned Saturday from Florida, whither he went several weeks since for the benefit of his health. In the Pollec Court to-day the Rev. James W. Fishburge, colored, charged with felony, was given a preliminary hearing and sent on to the grand jury.

FINE SHOWING.

As a result of the recent work on the part of the smembers of the Seward Mon's Bible Chars at the First Baptist Church, the attendance yesterday morning was ninety-five. Mr. Seward has been teaching the class for thirty years, and its growth has been gradual, It numbers seventy, and the members determined to increase it to one hundred.

The attendance at the Sunday school of the First Baptist Church, yesterday was the largest for many months.

FAYORS THE WORK.

Briggdler-General MacKenzie, who has succeeded General Gillespie as chief of engineers, is decidedly favorable to the plans for diverting the freshet water in the Appointatex River. He was formerly assistant to General McKenzie, who has succeeded General Gillespie as chief of engineers, is decidedly favorable to the plans for diverting the freshet water in the Appointance of the communications from General McKenzie s

RAPPAHANNOCK OPEN.

Smallpox Huts in Stafford Burned as Patients Leave Them.

Cas Faterits Leave Them.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

FREDERICKSEURG, VA., Feb. 29.—
The steamer Northumberland, of the Weems Line, arrived here last night from Baltimore, the river having become sufficiently open to admit of its reaching the wharf. This is the first steamer to arrive here for about a month.

The smallpox situation in Stafford county has considerably improved. The huts

The smallpox situation in Stafford county has considerably improved. The huts in which the patients were confined near Brooke, are being burned, as also the ciothing and other articles, and new huts have been built. Guarantine will be lifted this week, and it is not thought there will be any further trouble. There are several cases of smallpox in the county, but of a mild form.
The fishing season is expected to open

but of a mild form.

The fishing season is expected to open on the Potomac River this week, as preparations have been going on for some time at the various shores. The first seine will probably be dipped at Mari-

Rev. H. L. Walton, who has charge several Presbyterian churches in the lower Northern Neck, has declined a call

lower Northern Neck, has declined a cal-to Louislana.

Dogs attacked a flock of sheep in Orange county, owned by Mr. B. P. Willis a few nights ago, killing several specimens and injurying others.

Mr. Emery Packett and Miss Ella S. Delano, of the Northern Neck, will be married at Cobham Park Baptist Church, in Richmond county, on Wednesday evein Richmond county, on Wednesday eve-

CHATHAM STIRRED.

A Warm Fight Imminent Over the Dispensary Question.

the Dispensary Question.

(Snecial to The Times-Dispatch.)

CHATHAM, VA., Feb. 29.—Nothing pertaining to the whiskey question since it was voted out in 1888 has so much stirred the town citizens as the bill recently offered by Senator Rison, providing for a special election to be held as soon as possible to decide the issue. Petitions from both factions have been circulated and sent to the county members of the General Assembly. The dispensary advocates claim to have a majority of the resistered voters of the town who are entitled to a vote should the election be held before the end of six months, as several are is—ligible on account of not having paid help poil taxes; but this remains to be seen.

A petition opposing the bill has been

be seen.

A position opposing the bill has been circulated among the ladies, a majority of whom affixed their names. The lines are being tignity drawn, and should the bill become law the contest will be one of the warmest ever waged in the town. The lauter advocates have announced that they will have a ticket for municipal officers at the election in June.

Another petition was circulated by the

No Dessert More Attractive

Why use golatine and spend hours soaking, sweetening, flavoring and coloring when

Jell-O produces better results in two minutes?
Everything in the package. Simply add hot
water and set to cool. It's perfection. A surprise to the housewife. No trouble, less expense. Try it to-day. In Four Fruit Flavors: Lemon, Orange, Strawberry, Raspberry. At grocers, 10c. Pianos Worthy of Consid-

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dispensary advocates to-day. J. T. Clement, of the law firm of Clement, and Clement, Mayor Hargrave and H. D. Sheppard left this afternoon for Richmond to appear before the General Assembly Tuesday, when the bill providing for the special election goes to the Senate committee.

for the special election goes to the senate committee.

The former will represent the dispensive avocates, while the latter two will take care of the opposing side.

A list of the qualified votors of the corporation certified to by County Treuster Duncan will be compared with the various petitions before the Senate Committee. Both sides are claiming a majority. Every step will be vigorously contested, and both sides are awaiting the outcome of the contest before the committee with much interest.

INSPECT V. M. I.

Cadet Battalion Salute Committee With Seventeen Guns.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) LEXINGTON, VA., Feb. 29.—The Comalttee on Schools and Colleges of the Virginia Legislature, accompanied by members of several other committees, armembers of several other committees, arrived here this morning from Staunton and inspected the Virginia Military Institute. They were received by a salute of seventeen guns fired by the cadet battery. The cadet battallon was inspected and Butt's manual exercises by the cadet on the stoops were witnessed. Dinner was served the visitors in the cadets mess hall, after inspecting the buildings. The committees left this afternoon in their private cars for Staunton. They expressed themselves as highly pleased with all pertaining to the school and its excellent condition.

MINERAL BANK.

Business Men to Run a Live Weekly Paper.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) MINERAL, VA., Feb. 29 .- The directors of the National Bank of Mineral have lecided to open for business April 1st. A private newspaper company, composed of the business men of this place, has been formed, the object of which is to run or have printed a first class week-

ly paper.

The caption will be the "Mineral Mirror," and its first issue will appear this or next week.

The Initial Game.

The Initial Garne.

(Special to 'he Times Dlapatch.)
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA. Feb. 29.—
The initial game of the baseball senson at the University of Virginia is scheduled to take place on March 12th, less than two weeks off. The prospects for a strong team are very encouraging, though the applicants have been considerably handicapped by the bad weather. Among the candidates for the nine are: Catchers-Munger, of last year's team; Chandler, or St. Paul's School, N. Ly. Carter, of the Episcopal High School; Worman and Zimmer. Pitchers-Oracratt, Cole, Barger, Racon, Whitling and Comer. First buse-Polard, Daniel, Jones (Virginia Military Institute) and Whitlock (Episcopal High School). Second base-Powell, of Bethlehem, Pa., and Rosser, of last year's nine. Shortstops-Stuckey and McGione. Third base-Captain Steams and Mason. Outfield-Casto, Fleet, Crawford, Reynolds and Robertson.

Things That Are French.

(Special to The Times Dispatch.)

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA., Fob. (2)—A group of the Alliance Francisce was organized at the University of Virginia this evening, the object of the association being to diffuse a knowledge of things that are French. The choice of president of the society fell upon Dr. Morris Page, chairman of the faculty of the University. A delegate was also appointed to sity. A delegate was also appointed to represent the group at the National Convention to be held at New York March 21st, under the presidency of M. Jusserand, the French ambassador.

A trend to the club's social life will be given through lectures delivered by men of recognized ability. The first fecturer will be Count de Wierzbicki, who will address the society on March 20th. His subject will be "Le Roman Contemporain."

Railroad Officers.

Raiffoad Officers.

(By Associated Press.)

ROANOKE, VA., Feb. 23.—George P.
Johnston has been appointed superintendent of the Scioto division of the Norfolk
and Western Railway, with offices at
Pertsmouth, Ohlo. J. H. Riton becomes
superintendent of the Shenandoan Valley
and the Roanoke and Southern divisions
of the Norfolk and Western, succeeding
Mr. Johnston, with offices at Roanoke,

VIRGINIA BRIEFS

PETERSBURG REPUBLICANS

The Regular Organization in Mass-Meeting Elect Delegates to Norfolk.

NEW COMMITTEE IS CHOSEN

H. C. Wilson Re-Elected Chairman-Meeting Largely Attended and Harmonious.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) PETERSBURG, VA., Feb. 29,-The reglar Republican organization of Petersbury in mass-meeting at the courthouse to-night selected delegates to the State convention which meets in Norfolk March endorsed the administration of President Roosevelt and instructed the defegates to vote for such delegates at the district and Norfolk conventions as will work for the renomination of Roosevelt for the presidency.

Mr. H. C. Willson, the chairman of the City Central Committee, presided, and four out of the six ward chairmen were present and participated in the meeting. The meeting was largely attended and thoroughly harmonious. The report of the committee was unanimously adopted large number of white people in attendance. The City Central Committee was

imously re-elected chairman.

The meeting to-night was in harmony with the State organization.

B. R. Powell was re-elected a member of the Fourth Congressional District Committee.

Committee.

The delegates elected are: State convention—II. C. Willson, W. D. Northington and B. R. Powell; district convention Petersburg, March 2d—II. C. Willson, John H. Allen, Charles T. Myers; Alternates—David C. Penn, R. B. Wilson, R. A. Vaung.

Powhatan Republicans.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
POWHATAN C. H., VA., Feb. 20.—
The Republicans of Powhatan met in con-The Republicans of Pownatan met in con-yention here Saturday, L. O. Davis was chairman, and A. T. Taylor, secretary, The following delegates were elected to the Norfolk convention: L. O. Davis, A., W. Willson and R. T. Turner; Alternates— C. W. Palmore, C. S. Dorset and Carter

It was decided that these delegates would also attend the district conve

The resolution endorsed Roosevelt and the State organization.

L. O. Davis was re-elected county chair-man without opposition; C. S. Dorset was elected a member of the State Committee. The delegates go to the convention unin-structed, but it is believed that they all are in favor of the Slemp faction.

Bedford Republicans.

BEDFORD CITY, VA., Feb. 29.—Bedford county Republicans met here today in convention and elected delegates to the district convention at Lynchburg and the State convention at Norfolk. Harmony prevailed throughout the meeting, and resolutions endorsing Roosevelt for President, the State organization and Chairman Park Agnew were adopted unanimously. W. B. Gray was elected county chair-man in the place of Floyd Gray, re-signed,

ENGINEER ACQUITTED OF **GROSS NEGLIGENCE**

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

ALEXANDRIA, VA., Feb. 29.—Engineer Carey Cruinp was Saturday afternoon acquitted before Justice Burrell, of Alexandria county, of the charge of criminal negligence leading to the death of William J. Stokes, Vernon Brown, his wife and child.

The prosecution was conducted by Commonwealth's Attorney Crandall Mackey and the defense by Attorney C. C. Carlin, of this city.

Crump was in charge of the engine which several weeks ago struck and killed the above at a crossing in Alexandria county, and the proceedings were instituted by relatives of Stokes. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

The Mongibello Floated.

The Mongiterio From (By Associated Press.)

PORT EADS, Feb. 29.—A dispatch from Inplain Matt, of the tug R. W. Wilmot, ing Bags, &c. Captain Matt, of the tug R. W. Wilmot, dated Key West, say: "Have succeeded in floating the Italian steamship Mongibello, before reported ashore on Alligator Recf. The Mongibello was bound from New York to New Orleans."

BY OSCAR EAGLE

Stage Director for Liebler & Co.'s Productions Tells of Some Risks Men Take.



Speaking of the risks taken by bush-BRIEFS

Special to The Three Dispetch

Notificials, or the Three Dispetch

Notificials, or the Three Dispetch

Notificials, or the New Century Saloni, and the New Century ness and professional men, Oscar Ea-gle, stage director for Leibler & Co,'s productions, says: "Most men will stake

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DEFENDS SOUTHWEST.

Senator Harman Does Not Agree With Dr. Pilcher.

ADVISORY BOARD TO FARMERS

Advice to Agriculturists of Ways to Meet New Conditions.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
FARMVILLE, VA., Feb. 29.—The advisory board of the Tobicco Growers'
Association of Prince Edward county,
consisting of E. T. Bondurant, Horace
Richardson, Lindsay Walthall, J. C. Richardson, Lindsay Walthall, J. C. Hamlet and H. A. Stokes, make a series of suggestions to the farmers, and recommend that they make a thorough change in their manner of farming, and in the future work on the more intensive plan. concentrating labor and fertilizers on fewer acres, and endeavor to produce from these few what they have hereto-fore produced from the many. The board

says;
"We are at present confronted by situation unparalleled in our history, and are forced to change our methods and modes of farming in order to meet our

are forced to change our methods and modes of farming in order to meet our changed surroundings.

Your committee earnestly urges the diversifying of crops. First, be sure to make bread, meat and forage enough at home, and, if possible, some to spare, for we can no longer buy these things out of a tobacco crop.

"We should endeaver as far as possible to do strictly a cash business, and in every way use the strictest economy, thereby hoping to gain for ourselves a degree of independence, which will enable us to some extent to dictate prices upon whatever we may have to sell.

"It is advised that every member of this body urge every one of his farmer friends and acquaintances to join our association and impress upon them the importance of becoming members and co-operating with us.

"It is also suggested that three 'volunteers' from each district in the county be appointed by the chair to canvass their respective districts and see every farmer in them, and let them know what we are trying to do, and explain to them that it is to their interest to join us and their duty to help us in this great work.

"It is advised that a district organiza-



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TIMES-DISPATCH BUSINESS OFFICE.

tion be formed and worked in every township.

tion be formed and worked in every township.

"Your committee recommends to every farmer and urges him not to rush hystobacco on the market, and when they do strike, try to have it in safe keeping order, that it may be held as long as possible. It is also the sincere wishes of your committee to urge and impress upon the farmers the great importance of curtailing the crop of tobacco to be grown the present year (1904) at least twenty-five per cent. If not more. "Your committee also recommends the purchasing of fertilizers in clubs, as much as can be practically done, and also urges the farmers to correspond with independent manufacturers before making any purchases.

Eligibility Rules.
(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA., Feb. 2

The new eligibility rules adopted at the recent meeting of the State Intercollegiate Athletic Association will have an important bearing upon future intercollegiate athletic contests in Virginia, and legiate athletic contests in Virginia, and their strict enforcement will lead to increased purity in athletics throughout the State. The most important change is that which excludes University players from summer ball. No man can take part in an association contest who has played summer ball on teams other than his own home team. By home team is meant the place of permanent residence of the player, and he shall have resided there twelve months prior to his taking part in said summer ball. It was provided further that the individual on the home team playing in other towns must pay his own expenses, including car fare, hotel bills and all fees. He can receive absolutely no money from the management.

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